

## **REMARKS**

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated **December 31, 2007**. Each issue in the Office Action is addressed below.

### ***Election/Restrictions***

It is asserted in the Office Action that claims 32-35, 40-47 and 50 read upon the elected species shown in figure 6. It is respectfully requested that claims 39, 51 and 52 be reconsidered as to their reading upon the elected species.

Claim 51 requires that “the outer diameter of the mounting body [be] substantially constant along its length”. This element is clearly shown in elected figure 6.

Claim 52 is similar to claim 45, which adds a stent crimped onto the medical balloon, and should similarly be seen as reading on the elected species.

Withdrawn claim 39 has been amended to read upon the elected species. It is respectfully requested that the amended claim be reinstated as being seen as reading upon the elected species.

### ***§102 Rejections***

Claims 32-35, 40-41, 43, 45-47 and 50 were rejected under 35 USC §102(c) as being anticipated by Pathak et al. (US 5741323). A full account of the rejection is found on page 3 of the Office Action.

The rejection fails for at least the reason that the cited reference does not disclose a mounting body...*having at least one separation*, as required by claim 32. There is no indication that the flexible sleeve 30, which the rejection asserts to be a mounting body, has a separation. Notwithstanding this, claim 32 has been amended to further clarify the claimed subject matter. Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore requested.

### ***§103 Rejections***

Claims 42 and 44 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pathak et al. (US 5741323). A full account of the rejection is found on page 3 of the Office

Action.

For the above reasons, the cited reference does not substantially disclose the claimed invention, as asserted in the rejection, and as such, the present rejection similarly fails. Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore requested.

***Information Disclosure Statement***

Foreign patent documents and other documents as requested in the Office Action are being provided herewith.

***Conclusion***

In light of the above amendments and comments, the pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Notification to that effect is requested. If the Examiner needs further information or wishes to discuss the present case, he is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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